NASA Range Safety Program
2006 Annual Report

SPECIAL INTEREST ITEMS
ELV PAYLOAD SAFETY PROGRAM

NASA Headquarters Office of Safety and Mission Assurance established a NASA team to update the expendable launch vehicle payload safety review process and replace the current NASA-STD-8719.8, *Expendable Launch Vehicle Payload Safety Review Process Standard*, with a NASA procedural requirements document. The team's goal is to develop a program with improved structure and processes for ensuring NASA expendable launch vehicle payloads are consistently designed, transported, processed, tested, integrated with the launch vehicle, and launched safely. The new process will be coordinated and implemented jointly with the Air Force approval process (for launches from Air Force ranges) and will retain the Payload Safety Working Group and a phased safety review approach.

Chapters One and Two of the new *Expendable Launch Vehicle Payload Safety Program* NPR, are complete and in the review cycle. Chapter One documents the agency policy for Expendable Launch Vehicle Payload Safety and Chapter Two describes the Safety Review and Approval Process. Technical design and operational requirements for the payload and ground support equipment are presently being developed combining NASA and Air Force requirements (AFSPCMAN 91-710, *Range Safety User Requirements Manual*).

An Expendable Launch Vehicle Payload Safety and Mission Success Conference is planned for February 6 - 8, 2007. For more information, you can access information about the conference website at http://www.tisconferences.com/elv/

Before the conference begins, an informational exchange session will be held on February 5 to address Expendable Launch Vehicle Payload Safety Program development, requirements, and implementation. An overview of the Program's policies, processes, and requirements will be presented and discussed. In addition, training courses are being developed for working group members and engineers as well as program mangers.